Appl. No.: 09/976,299

Attorney Docket No. 11721-034

Reply to Office Action of April 28, 2003

Amendments To The Specification:

Please amend the following paragraphs. A marked up copy of the amended paragraphs illustrating the amendments appears with strikethroughs for deleted text and underlining for added text.

Paragraph at page 8, lines 10-17:

Microprocessor 12 under the direction of programs stored in memory 14 receives input data from the various sensors 32 through 38, processes such data and controls occupant restraints 40 through 46. In particular, a load management procedure 15 is stored in memory 14. Microprocessor 44 12 under the direction of load management procedure 15 controls occupant restraints 40, 42, 43, and 44 for each seat in a manner that manages their actuation sequence and actuation times when a high g event occurs.

Paragraph at page 9, lines 1-7:

Referring to FIG. 2, curve A represents an acceleration response to the occurrence of a high g event. The high g event occurs at time t0. ALR 44 is activated at time t1, pre-tensioner 40 is activated at time t2 and air bag device 43 is activated at time t3. Any one or more of AL\$ ALR 44, pretensioner 40 or airbag device 43 can be enabled prior to the occurrence of the high g event.

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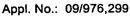
Paragraph at page 9, lines 18-26:

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Referring to FIG. 3, load management procedure 15 has a high g response routine 50 that begins at step 51 with the detection of a high g event by high g event sensor 34. At step 52 it is determined if ALR is to be enabled. If yes, step 54 actuates ALR 44. If step 52 determines that ALR is not to be enabled, step 54 is bypassed to step 56. Step 56 determines if pre-tensioner is to be enabled. If yes, step 58 actuates pre-tensioner 40. If step 56 determines that pre-tensioner is not to be enabled, step 58 is bypassed to step 60. Step determines if IPR is to be enabled. If not, air bag device 43 is not actuated. Then, high g response routine 50 ends.

Paragraph at page 11, lines 11-26:

If step 74 determines that the buckle is buckled, step 86 determines if the occupant weight is less than 30 kilograms. If yes, step 88 freezes the occupant weight and decision. A buckled child procedure 89 is then performed. Buckled child procedure 89 begins with step 90 that disables the IPR. Step 91 enables the ALR. Step 92 then disables enables the pre-tensioner. Next, step 93 determines if this is the first cycle. If yes, step 94 issues an audible alert. If no, step 95 issues a visual alert. Step 95 also issues a visual alert after step 94 during the first cycle. Step 96 then records the status of occupant weight (<30kg), IRP disable and ALR and pre-tensioner enabled. Step 97 then determines if the buckle has been reset. If there has been a change in buckle status, the change is recorded by step 96. Step 97 again determines if there is a change in buckle status. If the status has not changed, the ALR is reset by step 98 and the enable/disable routine returns to the start step 72. The sequence of steps 72, 74, and 86 through 98 reiterates until the buckle



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status changes, the occupant weight changes or the occupant is removed from the seat.

Paragraph at page 18, line 19 through page 19, line 7:

Referring to FIG. 9, step 100 determines if the seat belt buckle has been reset. If yes, step 210 resets the ALR and returns to start. If step 100 determines that the buckle has not been reset, step 212 determines if the buckle time period is greater than x. That is, has the buckle time period expired. If yes, step 214 determines if the weight in the seat is less than 38 kilograms. In this example, 38 kilograms covers the enable and low risk evaluation range. While evaluating the low risk enable, an individual's weight is normalized. During this evaluation, a determination is made as to whether the weight is more often above or below the threshold. While evaluating this condition just after buckle, the occupant is provided a stages operation (low risk). If step 100 214 determines no, step 216 determines if manual ALR (MALR) is enabled. If no, step 114 determines if the seat belt is extended. If no, steps 116 through 122 are performed as an enable/disable procedure 70 except that after step 118, step 218 resets the visual alert.